

Discovering Employment Trends with Local Employment Dynamics (LED)



Columbia, Jefferson City, Rolla, and Lebanon form the largest concentrations of employment in the Central Workforce Investment Area (WIA). Workforce Investment Areas are the result of the federal Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (WIA) which funds a number of employment and training programs across the nation.

A map of the Central WIA Region, showing various counties and major highways. The map includes labels for counties such as Howard, Boone, Audrain, Columbia, Fulton, Callaway, Jefferson City, Montebau, Morgan, Cole, Osage, Gasconade, Miller, Maries, Camden, Osage Beach, Pulaski, Rolla, Phelps, Wayneville, Lebanon, Laclede, Dent, Crawford, and Washington. Major highways are marked with shields: 40, 83, 50, 84, 55, 44, 63, and 35. The map also shows the Missouri River and the Mississippi River.

City Limits

Employees per sq. mile

- High
- Medium
- Low

Map labels: E, VV, 63, 763, B, PP, HH, 70, UU, ZZ, TT, AC, 163, 740, 63C, 63, K, KK.

Columbia's 2009 population estimate from the US Census American Community Survey was 102,324 with a median age of 26.5. This is up from the 2000 Census population of 84,780. 92.7% of Columbia residents hold at least a high school diploma while 51.7% hold a bachelors degree or higher. The top employing sector in Columbia is Health Care & Social Services, which makes up over 18% of the city's jobs, up from 12% in 2002.

Where do Columbia's Workers Live?

The Local Employment Dynamics (LED) program is a partnership between the U.S. Census Bureau and the agencies in each state that generate and analyze labor market information. The LED Origin-Destination mapping tool allows you to designate either an area where workers work and determine where they live, or designate where residents live and determine where those workers commute.

Top Counties Where Columbia Workers Resided in 2002		Top Counties Where Columbia Workers Resided in 2009	
Boone County	42,556	Boone County	38,801
Jefferson County	1,546	St. Louis County	2,384
St. Louis County	1,491	Callaway County	2,259
Cole County	1,383	Cole County	1,907
Cooper County	1,363	Cooper County	1,480
Total Columbia Jobs	59,602	Total Columbia Jobs	63,956

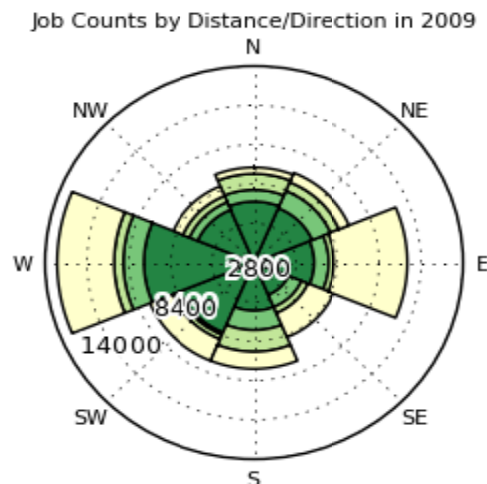
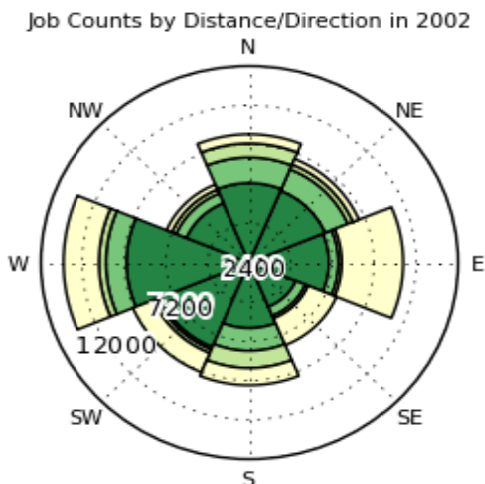
The I-70 Connection

Sitting almost squarely between Kansas City and St. Louis, Columbia has typically derived many workers from its larger neighbors. While the St. Louis metro area typically has sent more workers to Columbia, the trend shows Kansas City residents working in Columbia growing at a faster rate than those from St. Louis. In 2002 there were 4,267 Columbia based workers from the St. Louis metro and 1,657 from the Kansas City metro. In 2009, however, St. Louis residents working in Columbia increased by 12.8% while Kansas City area residents working in Columbia increased by 38.8%.

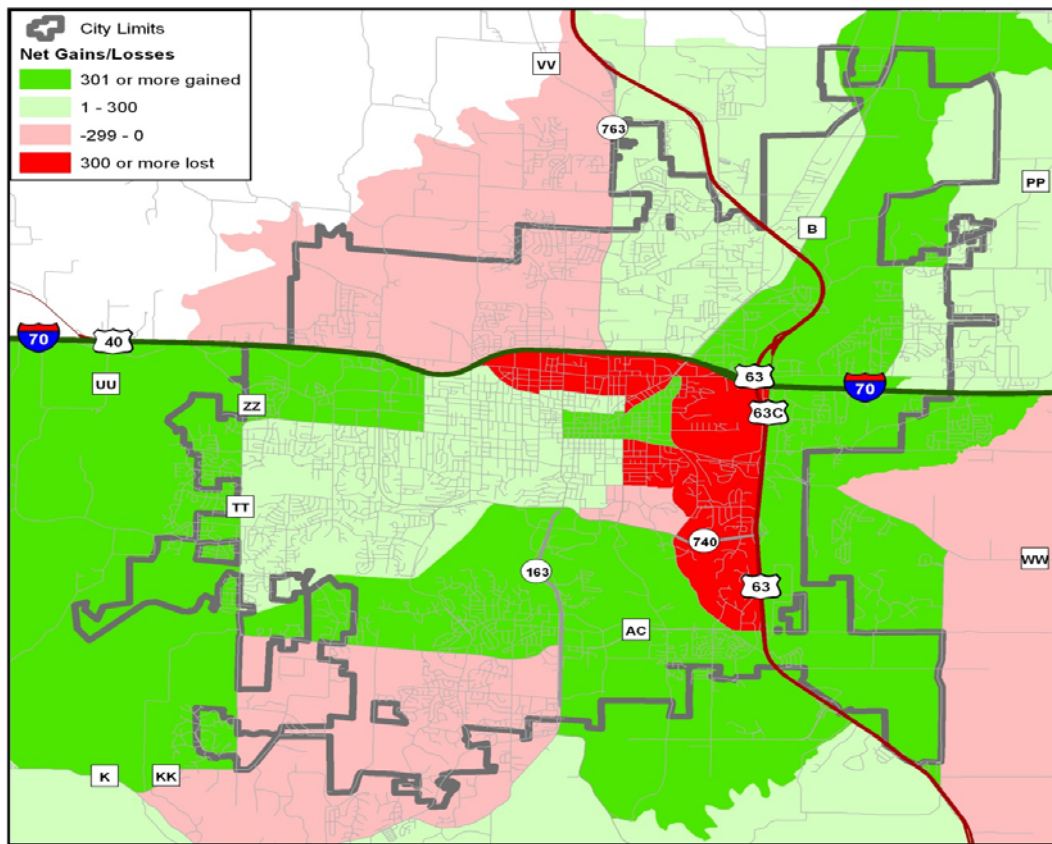
LED On-the-Map Commuter Distance & Direction

Columbia has nearly 8% fewer Boone County residents employed in 2009 than in 2002. However, Columbia now draws nearly 60% more workers from St. Louis County, 110% more from Callaway County, and 38% more from Cole County than in 2002. Columbia's workforce traveling from Jefferson City has increased by 50% over this timeframe as well.

Distance and Direction Columbia Workers to Residence (dark green=10 miles or less, yellow=50+ miles)



LED On-the-Map: Columbia Area Job Trend 2002-2009



Growing Industries versus Shrinking Industries

Columbia's top two employing industries by far are Health Care & Social Services and Educational Services, both employing nearly 13,000 people. The *Trade, Transportation, and Utilities* sector in Columbia grew jobs by 7.5% from 2002 to 2009. There was an increase in workers in this sector from St. Louis, Callaway, Jackson, and Cole Counties. Boone and Jefferson County residents in this sector declined over this span. The *Goods Producing* sector declined 12.5%. Nearly all of this loss can be attributed to the loss of Boone County residents, whose numbers declined by 27.8%.

